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A TABLET OF PRIORITIES.

On December 5th, there was unveiled on the walls of the main hall of the old College building (erected in 1694) before a large audience a beautiful marble tablet presented by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, through Capt. John Archer Coke, of Richmond, who made the presentation address. The tablet reads as follows:

PRIORITIES OF THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY.

Chartered February 8, 1693, by King William and Queen Mary.
Main Building Designed by Sir Christopher Wrenn.

FIRST College in the United States in its antecedents, which go back to the College proposed at Henrico (1619). Second to Harvard University in actual operation.

FIRST American College to receive its charter from the Crown under the Seal of the Privy Council, 1693. Hence it was known as "their Majesties' Royal College of William and Mary."

FIRST and ONLY American College to receive a Coat-of-Arms from the Herald's College, 1694.

FIRST College in the United States to have a full Faculty, consisting of a President, six Professors, usher, and writing master, 1729.

FIRST College to confer medallic prizes: the gold medals donated by Lord Botetourt in 1771.

FIRST College to establish an inter-collegiate fraternity, the Phi Beta Kappa, December 5, 1776.

FIRST College to have the Elective System of study, 1779.

FIRST College to have the Honor System, 1779.

FIRST College to become a University, 1779.

FIRST College to have a school of Modern Languages, 1779.

FIRST College to have a school of Municipal and Constitutional Law, 1779.

FIRST College to teach Political Economy, 1784.

FIRST College to have a school of History, 1803.